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that the author was fitted by past experience to write about—the St. Cloud Normal School, for instance, or the newspapers of the county. As a whole, however, the people of Stearns County should find this work both interesting and valuable.

CHARLES B. KUHLMANN

*Journal of Geography.* Volume 14, number 6. *Minnesota Number.* Under the editorial direction of PROFESSOR C. J. POSEY. (Madison, University of Wisconsin, February, 1916. Pp. 161–244)

The influence of geography on history is now so well recognized that all interested in the history of Minnesota will welcome this valuable publication in which are presented a score of articles by specialists on various phases of the physical and commercial geography of the state. The first article, by A. Walfred Johnston of the University of Minnesota, a general survey of the physical features of the state, is the best condensed statement of the subject to be found in print. "The Climate of Minnesota" is treated in a separate article by Eugene Van Cleef of the Duluth Normal. The southeastern section of the state is dealt with in a paper by Charles C. Colby on "The Driftless Area of Minnesota a Geographic Unit," in which special attention is devoted to the influence of physiographic factors on the economic development of the region. Stephen S. Visher of the Moorhead Normal presents "Notes on the Geography of the Red River Valley," and other writers deal with "Minneapolis," "St. Paul," "Duluth and the Range Towns," and "The Lesser Cities." Other articles cover such subjects as water resources, iron ores, peat, clays, rock-quarrying, agriculture, soil maps, dairying, fruit-growing, and manufacturing. An article on "The Development of the Lumber Industry in Minnesota," by E. G. Cheyney of the university, is distinctly historical in treatment and indicates the important part which this industry has played in the development of the state. Another suggestive paper of special historical interest is "Geographic Influences in the Exploration and Early Development of Minnesota" by C. J. Posey, also of the university.

The editors of the *Journal* are quite justified in describing this Minnesota number as "a valuable handbook of geographical

information." They and the special editor are to be congratulated on the high quality of the material presented, for the papers as a rule are not only accurate but interesting. A large edition has been prepared with the object of having copies available for Minnesota teachers and schools, and it is to be hoped that advantage will be taken of the opportunity. Single copies are sold at fifteen cents, six at seventy cents, and ten or more to a single address at ten cents each.

S. J. B.

*Acta et Dicta: A Collection of Historical Data regarding the Origin and Growth of the Catholic Church in the Northwest.*  
Volume 4, number 1. (St. Paul, Catholic Historical Society, July, 1915. 184 p.)

The Catholic Historical Society of St. Paul has been in existence now for eleven years and has issued this publication annually since 1907 with the exceptions of 1912 and 1913. Each volume consists of two of these issues. The most valuable article in the 1915 issue is "The History of the Diocese of St. Paul" by Rev. Francis J. Schaefer. In this is sketched the early missionary activity of the French in the upper Mississippi Valley, followed by a more detailed account of the development of the diocese under its various bishops. Based largely on original material, the article is a real contribution to the history of Minnesota. Other articles included are: "Very Reverend Samuel Charles Mazzuchelli, O. P.," an account and appreciation of the services of this pioneer priest in the Northwest by Archbishop Ireland, and "The Prophecy," an address by Bishop Thomas O'Gorman delivered before the South Dakota Historical Society in 1903. The latter is a superficial account of French explorations in the Minnesota and Dakota region, in which the remarkable statement is made that "from the day Spain occupied Mexico until the relinquishment to France, that is for about three hundred years, all of the land west of the [Mississippi] river was Spanish territory" (p. 25). Surely the bishop is aware that the French held Louisiana from 1699 to 1762, when the part west of the river, together with the island of New Orleans on the east side, was